

LIBRARY COMMISSION

NEWSLETTER

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WEST VIRGINIANS STAR AT A.L.A.

The American Library Association's Ninety-third Annual Conference, staged in New York City, featured several prominent West Virginians, both laymen and librarians. Governor Arch A. Moore, Jr., addressed the First General Session on Sunday,

July seventh, to invite the 10,000 librarians attending the conference to visit the West Virginia Heritage Art Show, to be held at the Westvaco Building at 299 Park Avenue.

Governor Moore also elaborated on public library progress in the Mountain State: "The expectations of our own West Virginia Library Commission are so great, and are daily becoming realities, that it behooves state senators, legislators, and especially the Governor to check in regularly with the Library Commission to keep abreast of their developing programs It has been a unique pleasure for me to see ideas being exported from West Virginia rather than people. During my ten years in Congress, I was forever being twitted by representatives from neighboring states when they would tell me that the best thing to come out of West Virginia would be an empty bus. But now the buses are coming back loaded with out-of-staters interested in our instant carrousel libraries . . . our new state library building . . . our state-wide borrower's card, and the techniques developed for securing successive 100% increases in state aid for libraries and nearly six million dollars for library construction.

"These expenditures for library services are a just and valid responsibility of state government. Library service should receive the same priorities for funding from state government as do highways and public education. For too long, our libraries have been regarded as beauty marks on the body politic, and as such have been covered over or forgotten . . .

"I would like to see our National Conference of Governor's assume a posture as strong for libraries as we do for other programs. With your advice and concurrence, I would like to propose to my fellow governors a program to make available funds to link up our state and national library resources in much the same manner as highway transportation has been improved through national network of interstate roadways."

On Wednesday, July 10, Senator Jennings Randolph received the Francis Joseph Campbell Citation and Medal by the Round Table on Service to the Blind. The ceremony was part of a luncheon program in the Trianon Ballroom of the New York Hilton. The citation for Senator Randolph's award read, "It is with deep appreciation that we of the library profession award this citation to Jennings Randolph who has advocated and provided legislation not only for library services, but services to meet all the needs of the handicapped." Making the presentation was the Library Commission's Dolly Rapping who heads our state's library service for the handicapped.

Active throughout the Conference in a myriad of responsibilities was the Commission's Director, Fred Glazer. Mr. Glazer was the featured speaker at Public Relations Section of the Library Administrative Division, a dinner meeting on July 11th. He chaired the Junior Members' Membership Meeting and was a panelist for the Trustee Program. He also served as a member of the Executive Board of the American Association of State Libraries.

Congratulations to James B. Nelson, Director of the Cabell County Library System, who is A.L.A. Advisory Committee Chairman for Library Service to the Disadvantaged for 1974-1975.

The West Virginia Heritage Art Show features the paintings of Meads Davenport who served as the Library Commission's Artist-in-Residence. The paintings will be on display in the Westvaco Building from July 8-22.

INSTANT
LIBRARIES
BETSY EATON

Welcome three more Instant Librarians in two new Instant Libraries. Geared up at the Marshall University Institute, Mildred Fickey and Janice Stiles returned to Blacksville to dedicate the Clay-Battelle Public Library, May 26th. Janice McClung opened the Rainelle Public Library for service on May 28th.

Blacksville librarians are pleased with the June circulation in their rural area; Rainelle has pressed enthusiastic volunteers into service--800 books are circulating a week.

"Hats Off to Readers" is the theme of the Summer Reading Program at four Instant Libraries. Combining materials from the Children's Book Council and those produced by the Library Commission, Man, Rainelle, Webster Springs, and Hamlin have children pasting hats at sign posts along the road in a large mural. Final parties with hat making, games, movies, and goodies are planned in August.

Clarence Coffindaffer reports that the "Instant" in Parsons and Gassaway are in a "holding pattern". The buildings are up--indeed these were up instantly; equipment is the delay now.

A TRIO OF
BUILDING DEDICATIONS

Dave Childers, the Library Commission's Construction Specialist, reports a whirlwind of activities this Spring. The dedications at

Ripley, Ravenswood, and Bluefield found him representing the Commission at ceremonies featuring an address by Governor Arch A. Moore, Jr. A warm spring sun blessed the ceremonies in Jackson County. This constituted a state-wide first for dedicating two libraries in one county on the same day.

Mrs. Mary Guiney, formerly of the West Virginia Library Commission, who has moved to Atlanta, returned for the April 27th occasion. Mary was Ripley's first librarian, so she felt compelled to return for the triumphant christening of the new building. Other familiar faces from early Alpha Region days were Mrs. Lucile McNary and Mrs. Virginia Gibson Roberts. Much to his surprise, Perry O'Brien, Chairman of the Jackson County Library Board, was awarded a plaque by Senator Orton Jones "for time and service in making these libraries possible . . . Jones cited "Mr. O'Brien's two decades given to library science and advancement of libraries in West Virginia and Jackson County" as the basis for the award. A plaque will be placed in both buildings.

Vital statistics on the two Jackson projects: Each structure cost about \$277,000 (Library Services and Construction Act \$54,500, Appalachian Regional Commission \$35,000, State \$88,000, Jackson County Court \$69,400, and site in Ripley \$30,000). Both library buildings will accommodate about 20,000 volumes with about 7,000 square feet in available area.

The synchronizing of the two ceremonies, 10:30 a.m. in Ripley and 1:00 p.m. in Ravenswood, was made almost painless with the fine luncheon provided special guests at the Green Hills Country Club by the Woman's Clubs of Jackson County.

On May 8, 1974, R. W. Wilkinson, Chairman of the Craft Memorial Library Board, presided at the formal dedication of the new building in Bluefield. Present as a guest was the widow of Jack Craft whose memorial contribution of \$135,000 worth of Holiday Inn stock made the project possible. State Government was represented by Governor Moore and Senator Odell Huffman. Adding drama to the occasion were selections by the High School Chorus.

Construction cost for the new facility was \$473,900 and the furniture was purchased for \$30,990. The total area available is 12,400 square feet and the book capacity is 40,000 volumes.

This project moved along very expeditiously with planning starting in January, 1972. The architectural firm was Hunter, Zando, Martin, and Milstead of Charleston. Construction was contracted for by the Corte Construction Company which completed the project in exactly one year.

The main book collection is on the first floor. The second floor consists of a conference room which will seat 150 persons, private study areas, storage areas and mechanical room. The interior walls are left a natural brick and make an excellent background for art displays.

Especial recognition for her part in this unique building is given Mrs. Luella Dye who started work on the building program while continuing to fulfill her school librarian's contract in Logan.

TRUSTEES
PLEASE
NOTE!

The Trustee Section of the West Virginia Library Association is preparing a manual of some depth to guide the new library trustee. The program is under the direction of Mrs. Barbara Johnson, chairman of the section, assisted by Peggy Kessenger. There are sometimes as many as 75 new trustees appointed each year on public library boards. This manual should clue them in on the ball game. They hope for a "test" copy by the time of the West Virginia Library Association Conference at Pipestem.

Fayette County Library Board filled some vital vacancies with Carl H. Johnson of Charlton Heights and Mrs. E. E. Jones of Mt. Hope. Hardy County Library Association, a private corporation in Moorefield, has reorganized its board under Hardy County Court and Chapter X of the West Virginia Code. Newly appointed board personnel are Mrs. C. B. Allen, Ralph Hitt, Mrs. Florence Cochran, Mrs. Lucille Gohdes, and Glen Van Der Schaaf. The state's trustees should be happy to learn that an astronomer has joined their ranks. Edward B. Fomalont, astronomer for the Green Bank Observatory, is now treasurer of the Pocahontas County Library Board. Reverend William Westland has been appointed to the Nitro Public Library Board.

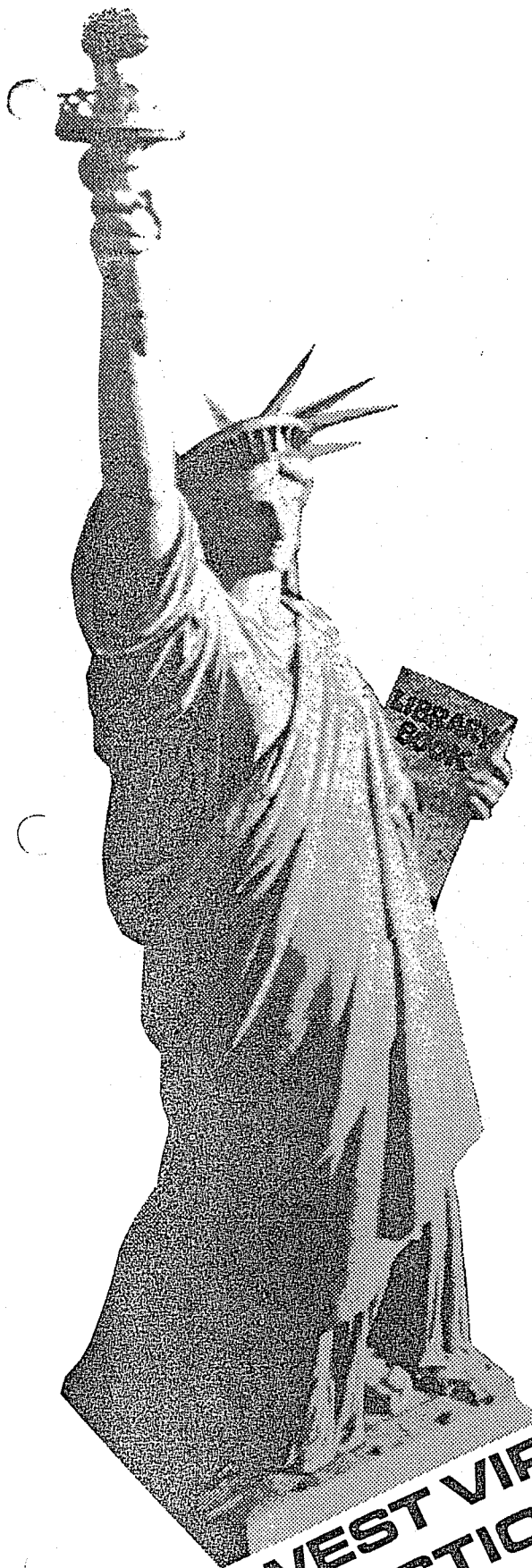
NATIONAL
LIBRARY
WEEK

Public libraries have learned to use this occasion to call attention to noteworthy library leaders and events. In Weston, the Lewis County Library Board chose to honor Miss Lennel Stuttler who has served for forty-one years in the Louis Bennett Memorial Library. The County Court and all the organizations which use the library feted Miss Stuttler and presented her with a Savings Bond. In Hancock County, the trustees and staff of the Swaney Memorial Library held an Open House on Sunday afternoon to celebrate the completion of twenty years of library service for the residents of New Cumberland.

Mrs. Moore fulfilled a very challenging week of more than a dozen appearances state-wide on behalf of libraries. Two unusual requests included reading a conservation story to youngsters at the Ohio County Library in connection with planting pine tree seedlings and the happy chore of helping the Clarksburg Library Board break ground for their new building. A new set of the Encyclopaedia Britannica has been provided the Mansion House Library by the Library Commission in honor of Shelley Moore's outstanding service during this special week.

IN
TRANSITION

The retirement of Mrs. Maxine Feldmeier as director of the City-County Library at Moundsville was deplored by trustees and library associates. Since she had served just five years, everyone hoped that she would stay on for many more years. Her successor is Mrs. Shirley Mills who most recently was assistant librarian at Beckley in Raleigh County. The state's librarians extend a warm welcome to two new arrivals, Bill Kirwan, the new Director of Library Services at the West Virginia College of Graduate Studies at Institute and to Jacqueline E. Wagner, a May graduate of Case-Reserve School of Library Science. Ms. Wagner is a specialist in urban services and will fill a community relations role for Kanawha County Library.

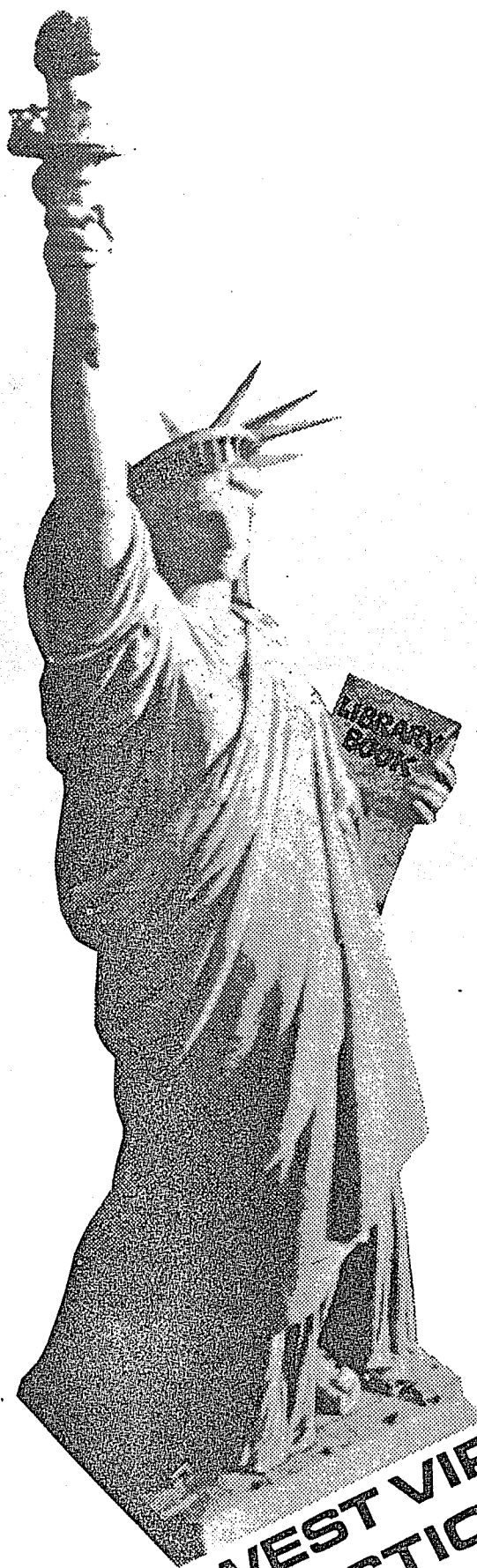


(1) Governor Arch Moore emphasizing West Virginia with an impressive appearance on the speakers podium before thousands of ALA Conference attendees from all over the world.

(2) Governor Moore and Frederic Glazer, Director of the West Virginia Library Commission, exchange warm greetings with Edward G. Holley, President-elect of ALA.



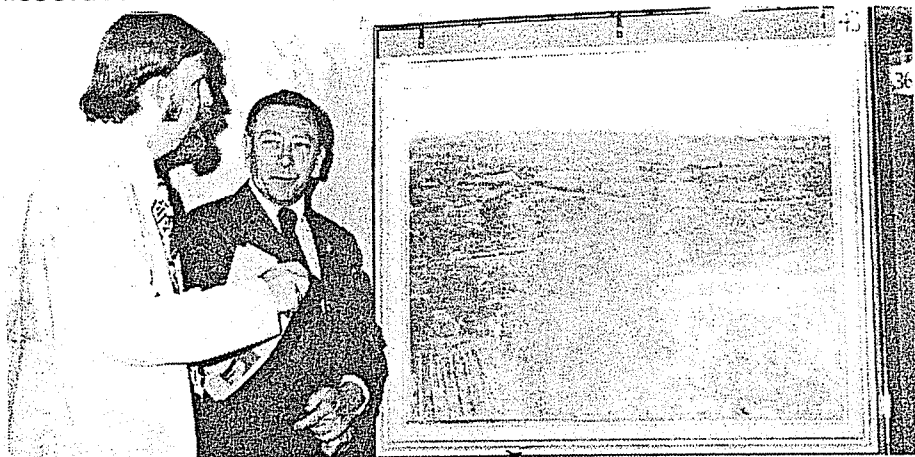
**WEST VIRGINIANS
IN ACTION AT
93RD ANNUAL
A.L.A. CONFERENCE
NEW YORK CITY**



(3) Frederic Glazer and a senior executive of Westvaco stand before the painting purchased from the West Virginia Heritage Collection by Westvaco.

(4) Attracted to the posh Park Avenue reception for "The West Virginia Heritage Collection" are many spectators, including West Virginia Library Commission staff members.

(5) ALA Conference goers from several West Virginia cities enjoy a reunion at The Francis Joseph Campbell Award Luncheon, chaired by Hortenzia S. Rapping of the West Virginia Library Commission.



**WEST VIRGINIANS
IN ACTION AT
93RD ANNUAL
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NEW YORK CITY**

DORA RUTH PARKS
MOVES HOME

In order to be nearer her family, the Library Commission's Executive Secretary (Emeritus!) moved back to North Carolina. We know her many friends in West Virginia libraries will want to keep in touch. Her new address is 2022-C Colony Apartments, Burlington, North Carolina, Zip 27215.

MARSHALL
UNIVERSITY
TRAINEES

What started as an effort to give in depth training to librarians from remote areas mushroomed into a far more widely attended program than the Library Commission envisioned. Seventy-five participants were boarding students, living in the dormitory on the campus. An additional twenty-five students commuted daily from Cabell, Wayne, and Putnam County libraries. Several city librarians attended or sent staff. The impact of the program held for two weeks on the Marshall University campus was one of general orientation for public librarians--some of them greenhorns and others who had worked for years as librarians and felt the need for battery recharging.

About forty different lecturers assaulted the trainees in ten days of instruction so that there were frequent comments, such as, "I'm working harder here than I do at the library," or, "Our heads are so full of knowledge we feel numb!"

When enrollees were asked to give an evaluation of ways to improve the course, most comments were favorable; one out-of-stater wrote, "You have given me enough ammunition to start a war." The reference project was termed "an unholy brawl" and all students begged for more time and access to reference facilities. Traditional areas such as cataloging, interlibrary loan, and public service procedures were requested as emphases in future sessions. Interest in establishing correspondence courses in library science was universal. Eighteen of the students submitted to a grueling two hour examination and earned three hours of Marshall University credit.

There were a few diversions outside the classroom to add cultural experiences--a bus tour took students to Huntington Art Galleries, to visit the modern Barboursville Branch of the Cabell County Library, and a reception at the old Carnegie Building on Fifth Avenue which serves as the Cabell County Headquarters. The concluding banquet, held in the Student Union Building, featured Dr. Thomas S. Brown who illustrated folk music of Appalachia with a medley of vocal and instrumental tunes. The West Virginia University professor urged the librarians to help him locate authentic mountain music and musicians.

NEW HOMES
FOR
THREE LIBRARIES

Mannington officially opened service in its new quarters on Friday, May tenth. The Marion County Court has purchased the six room building formerly occupied by the Monongahela Power Company. County Court President, Jess Borowski, participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony at the building located at 100 Clarksburg Street. The facility boasts a fine children's room, a West Virginia room, two offices, a storeroom, and a main room. Mrs. Charlotte Murphy, librarian, and Betty Matheny, extension

supervisor from Morgantown Service Center, deserve credit for the fine planning.

Following nine months of perpetual turmoil, the Marlinton Branch of the Pocahontas County Library opened its doors for townfolk to inspect during Pioneer Days, July 11 to 14. The library board had moved the book collection to the new location last October and then delayed opening while searching for a new librarian. Mrs. Marian Jarvinen has accepted the post and has twice moved the entire collection in the throes of remodeling the old McClintic House. A special grant from the Library Commission carpeted and reequipped an adult reading room, a stack room, and a cheery children's room.

On July 19, 1974, Capon Bridge Public Library will hold Open House in its new quarters in the municipal building. Congratulations to librarian, Dorothy Garner, and Mrs. Barbara Sirbaugh and her fellow trustees for having captured this fine new facility for library use.

WELCOME
TO A
VISITING
LIBRARIAN

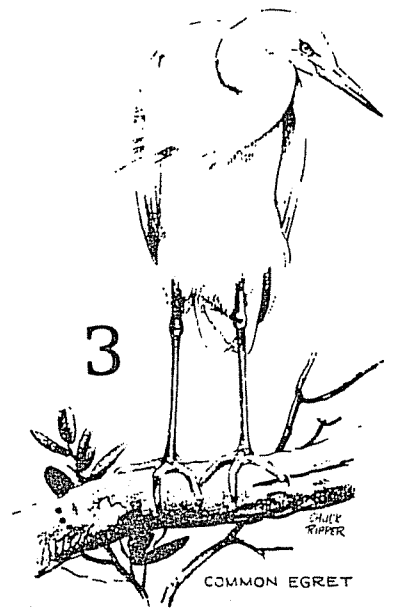
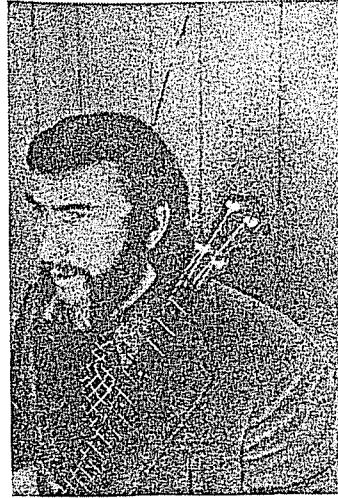
Odile Chesnot, a children's librarian from Versailles, France, arrived in Morgantown in early June for ten weeks of practical field work. In an interview at the Morgantown Public, Mademoiselle Chesnot explained that her library is only for children. Her library, "Heure Joyeuse" (Happy Hour), is open twelve hours a week--always on Wednesdays, since this is a free day for children, Tuesday evening, and Saturday afternoon. Children have a half day of school on Saturday! We hope our visitor will tour Mountain State libraries before she returns home.

ORDER
A
SUPPLY
NOW!

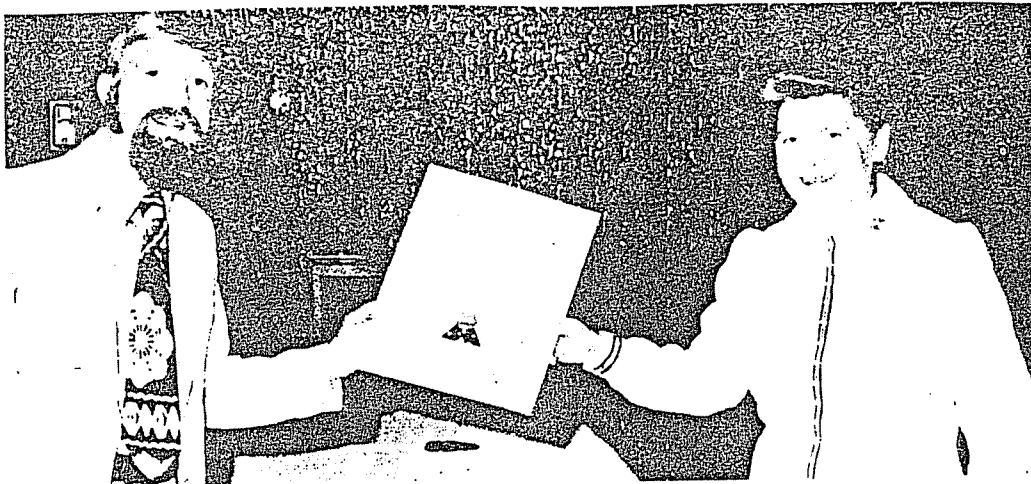
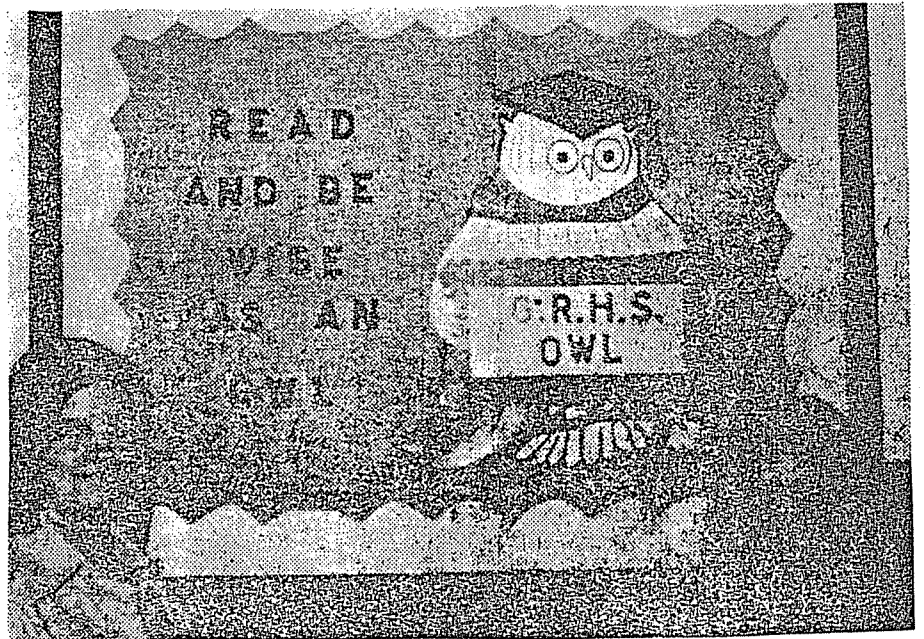
In early Spring, we were inspired by the fine publication, "Profiles of West Virginia Artists and Craftsman's Guild" to ask the experts about books they felt were best in their respective fields. To our surprise, over fifty of the craftsmen replied immediately. We have compiled "Art and Craft Books Recommended by the X-Perts" with the attractive designs of Mrs. Carol Bryan of our Publications Department. This list covers most crafts and would be a good item to distribute at local craft festivals or with a craft display in the library. We will distribute to your library in quantities to suit your needs.

Collage of Spring Activities: (1) "A Tasteful Display" was on tap in Cabell County's Junior Services Department with Charles Bailey's edible model of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory". (2) Dr. Thomas S. Brown of West Virginia University Music Faculty, asks librarians across the state to help him find new sources of Appalachian music. (3) Highly successful NLW bookmark designed by Charles Ripper used theme, "Don't Get Caught Out on a Limb Without a Book". (4) Mrs. "Toby" Garrett, librarian of Roane County Library, Spencer, West Virginia, receives her Certificate of Course Completion at Marshall University from Fred Glazer. (5) Lennel Stutler, long-time librarian at Weston, was honored during NLW. (6) Mrs. Deborah Marsh, librarian for Glen Rogers High School, displays a winning poster for NLW.

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West Virginia Library Commission
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